
ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: the life and public service of John Gower and honoring his many accomplishments.

Whereas, John Gower was born on January 10, 1941, and died on December 10, 2011, at the age of 70; and

Whereas, John Gower lived in Green Bay, and was long active in politics and government service in Northeastern Wisconsin; and

Whereas, John Gower received his Juris Doctorate from Marquette University in 1966 and went on to have a distinguished legal career serving the citizens of Brown and Oconto counties as district attorney, serving Marinette, Oconto, Shawano, and Menominee counties as an assistant state public defender, and owning a private law practice; and

Whereas, John Gower was a lifelong member of the Republican Party and recipient of the 8th Congressional District Alan Bovay award, named after the founder of the United States Republican Party; and

Whereas, John Gower served on both the Brown and Shawano county boards and spent three terms proudly serving the people of the 4th Assembly District in the Wisconsin state legislature; and

Whereas, John Gower was appointed to the following committees during his tenure in the Wisconsin state legislature: Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, Judiciary Committee, Transportation Committee, Joint Audit Committee, Joint Interim Committee, Joint Audit Committee, Elections Committee, Special Joint Committee on Fiscal Notes, Health and Social Services Committee, Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules, Legislative Council's Special Committee on Filing of Uniform Commercial Code Documents, and Select Committee on Health and Social Services; and

Whereas, John Gower was influential in the business community, serving as spokesman for the Brown County Taxpayers Alliance and as a member of the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College board of directors, the Brown County Harbor Commission, and the Astor Neighborhood Association; and

Whereas, John Gower co-founded the Community Council on Drug Abuse in Green Bay, developed the first educational program to combat drug abuse, and organized the crisis hotline; and

Whereas, John Gower was recognized for his community engagement when he received the Distinguished Service Award in 1973 from the Green Bay Jaycees; and

Whereas, John Gower had a passion for boating, traveling, and family; and

Whereas, John Gower was a loving husband to his wife Larae, proud father of David, Heather, Melissa, Andrew, and stepson Jon LeRoy, and grandfather of Nathan, Matthew, Cecilia, and Eleanor; and

Whereas, John Gower was known as a mentor of great passion and enthusiasm in advocating lives of public service and was the inspiration for two generations of local and state officials; and

Whereas, John Gower dedicated his life to civil service and was greatly respected and loved by his family, friends, and community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin state legislature commends the life and public service of John Gower and mourns his passing; and, be it further

Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint resolution to John Gower's wife Larae.

Senator Michael G. Ellis
President of the Senate

Representative Jeff Fitzgerald
Speaker of the Assembly

Date

Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk